

A discourse of the

by the lord Admiral with his foze ward
whiche he kept a whole day in battayle
raye on the top of a hill, from whence
they might see the sayde towne of Cha-
stellerault, but the enemies made no con-
tenance of comming out to them. For
this cause devising howe they might get
them out of their forte, to a place where
the sayd pzinces might fight with them,
they caused their army to marche to-
wardes *Mirebalois*, whiche is a very
good and frutesfull countrey, and whence
their enemies had their most commodi-
tie of vittayles, & where the said pzinces
might best vittayle their men to the
hinderance of their enemies. And draw-
ing thetherward, it hapned that the eni-
mies appoynted to lodge at the same
place where the Pzinces army was ap-
pointed. And that monsieur the Admi-
ral and Monsieur Dandelot his brother
approchyng nyghe their lodgynge, ac-
companied wyth foure or five Hun-
dredth horsemen at the most, they discry-
ed their enemies whiche had all their
horse

A discourse of
such things as are
happened in the armie
of my lordes the prin-
ces of Nauarre, and of
Condey, since the
moneth of
September last.
1568.

Seene and allowed.

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neman, for Lucas
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1569.

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*A Discourse of things hap-
pened in Fraunce, since the
Moneth of September.*

Anno. 1568.



By the goodnesse and prouidence,
with manifest help and
fatherly care had with-
drawn (as al me know)
the Prince of Condyes grace, and my
Lord the Admiral from the extreme pe-
rill, and almost vnaduoynable daunger
of their liues, in whiche they were at
Noyers and Tanlag, he guyded and con-
ducted them to Rochel: (from one parte
of the Realme to the other) without any
harne or daunger; with their wyues
and childzen, yea their cradles and
nourises, with small trayne, and greate
iourneys, by bye wayes & villages, vn-
handsome and ill appoynted. Not long
after, continuing his goodnesse and fa-
uour towarde Monsieur Dancelot,
A.iiij. whiche

A discourse of the

which was in *Britayne*, so assisted him, that though he were pursued by the *Lords Montpensier* and *Martigues*, accompanied with great strength both of footemen and horsemen, to hynder his ioyning with the prince, this notwithstanding, beyonde al expectation he passed ouer the riuer of *Loyre*, with all his troupe in their sight, at a fowde, whiche was neuer marked or knowen of the dwellers them selues. The fauour of God appeared also in the passage of the *Queene of Nauarre* and the *Prince hir sonne*, whiche went through the whole countrey of *Gascoigne* passed the riuer of *Garonne* & *Dordoigne*, with other riuers, fowdes and perillous streights though they were straightly followed by the *Lords of Moniluc, Terides, Descare,* and *Losses* with great force, without any hyndrance at all. The like was seene also in the passage of *Monsieur Dacier* whiche marched with all his troupe thorough the whole countreys of *Dalphine, Languedoc* and *Gascoigne*, to meete with
my

last Frenche warres.

my lordes the Princes, in the sight and knowledge of the Lorde Ioyeuse, which had expresse charge to stay hym: so that in despite of the sayd Princes enemies, they haue gathered together from all corners of this realme, to the number of five and twenty thousande hargebou- ziers, and five or sixe thousande horse- men, notwithstanding the order taken by their sayd enemies at all portes, bryd- ges, straights and passages, and hauing their armie ready foure monethes be- fore, wherewith (God be thanked) they coulde neuer touche the sayde Lordes princes, or let them from taking of their towines of *S. Maxant, Fontenay, Nyort, Coignac, Xantes, S. Iohn d' Angely, An- goulesme, Ponts, Bourg, Taillebourg, Tail- lemont*, and other towines, from the river of *Gyronde*, vnto the suburbs of *Salmu- re* vpon *Loyre*, some by composition and other some by force. And though the same were done in the sight of all men, but onely that the sayde Lorde Princes were at the siege before the sayd towne

A discourse of the

of *Ponts*, they were aduertised that the sayde Lord of *Assier* was arriued with his troupe at *Aubeterre*, whiche was with a hundzeth and threë scoze enseignes of footemē, beyng in number a fourtene thousand harguebouziars, and fire thousande pikemen, & twelue hundzeth horsemen : and that the enemies had suddenly taken the Captayne Mauuance, and the Captayne Pierregourdis, and had ouerthzowen them with certayne number of their souldiers, whiche caused the sayde Princes, fearyng some greater mischief, to marche with their armie towards the sayde place of *Aubeterre*, myndyng to fyght with the enemies yf they woulde stande to it : who so soone as they had newes of the Princes coming, remoued incontynēt. And bicause they vnderstode they toke the way to *Poitiers*, they determined to ouertake them if it might be with as great iourneys as was possible, seeking al meanes to make them come to the battayle, wherein they vsed suche diligence, that
the

last French wares.

the thirde day they were so nygh them,
that where the foze warde of the sayde
Princes lodged, the enemies were bn-
lodged a little befoze : and oftentimes
they found their bzead, munition and ca-
riage, so that seing them selues pursued
so nygh, they were constrained to retire
to *Chastellerault* and those partes, where
they entrenched them selues and their
artillerie, and mette with Monsieur the
kinges brother with new force. And for
that it was reported by the Gentlemen
that wer sent to descry them neare, that
the coming to them was so daunge-
rouse and harde, that it had bene to no
purpose, and without reason to assaile
them in their campe, whiche they had so
well fortified with trenches, and so well
prouided with munition and artillery,
whiche dyd so beate the sayde commers
therto, that it had ben vnpossible to kepe
aray without great losse of men : it was
determined to present them selues to
the sight of the army, to see if they would
come out of their fort, whiche was done

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by

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whiche he kept a whole day in battayle
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them out of their fozte, to a place where
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ed their enemies whiche had all their
hoysen

last Frenche warres.

horsesmen of the foze warde, to the number of two thousande horse. So that the sayd Admirall sent incontinently on all partes for al the troupes of horsesmen, as well of the battayle as of the foze ward, delaying still tyll the sayde Princes began to appeare with their battayle and other troupes of the foze warde, which somewhat abashed the enemies, & then they caused certayn barquebouziers to appoche nigh the enemies, and there was shot on bothe sides: but bicause it was vpon the closing in of day, and beganne to ware very darke, the battayle was deferred tyll the next day, at which tyme the sayd Princes with al their armies began to marche by breake of day straight to the place where they had left their enemies the euen befoze, and the sayde princes perceyuing that they were departed, caused certayne cornettes of horsesmen to post after the said enemies, to descryp whiche way they toke, and to assay once againe if they coulde prouoke them to fight. Whiche they dyd to a vil-

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lage

A discourse of the

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lage named *Sausay*, where the lordes of
Guyse, Martigues, Brissac, Tauannes,
Sausac, and diuerse other had lyen that
night, who were not the last that toke
their héeles, and that with such hast, that
they left all their cariage behinde them,
whiche was not lesse worth than two
hundreth thousand crownes, and eyght
or nyne score drawing hoeses, with cer-
taine powder. The sayd Princes being
aduertised that all the fore warde of the
enemies was out of aray and confused,
and that Mountsalan amongst others
was put to flight, and the most part of
his company slayne and taken, and had
their cornettes and enseignes, they be-
gan to marche as fast as they coude af-
ter them to ouertake them, whiche they
coude not do till they came to a village
named *Iazeneuil*, into whiche the ene-
mies retyled, and where the Kings bro-
ther had fortified and trenched himselfe
with his artillerie. Where the Princes
gaue them the braneest skirmishe that e-
uer was geue by memozy of mā, which
lasted

last Frenche warres.

lasted no lesse than fower or fyue long
houres, where was shot on bothe sides,
aboue fourescore thousand harquebouze
shot, and thzee hundzeth seven and thir-
tie great shot on the enemies syde only,
soz that the Princes great shot was not
brought from the siege of *Ponts*: and it
was found by y^e cōfession of the enemies
themselves, y^e they lost at this skirmishe
fiue or sixe hundzeth Souldiours, and
fiftene or sixtene Captaines: and on the
Princes side there were two hundzeth
hurt and slain. Yet it was wrytten to the
Quēene by some of hir trusty sernaunts
that are in the enemies campe, that ne-
uer French kings sōne was in so great
danger, as my Lord the kings bzothe,
soz the space of thzee dayes and thzee
nights: and in dēde it is moſte certaine
that at the same skirmish, the said Prin-
ces footemen wanne the trenches twise
or thrise, and set vpon the Artillerie, and
killed some at their pēces, yea that ma-
ny of the Souldiours entred into cer-
taine houses which were within the e-

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nemies

A discourse of the

enimies fort, and brought away armes,
and eate and dranke, whereof they had
great nede: for that three dayes together
they wanted vitayles, yet were they so
patient, and so desirous to fight, that they
forgotte the hunger that they suffered.
This skirmish being ended, by the means
of the night, the saide Princes ordained
that the next day by breake of day, they
should present them selues in the same
place of *Iazeuenil*, to see if they coulde
provoke the enimie to fight. Which was
done, but none of the enimies durst shew
their heades, saving a hundred or five
score horsemen, and that so nigh their
fort, yet it was impossible to buckle with
them. Since they had newes that they
were retired to *Luzignon*, and thence to
Poitiers: which caused the saide Princes
to lodge their armie in the Countrey of
Myrebalois, wher they found great quan-
tity of bread and munition, that the eni-
mies had caused to be provided, and un-
derstanding that they were come to lodge
at *Ausance*, which is within a league of
Poitiers

last Frenche warres.

Poitiers, and foure leagues frō the place
wher the said Princes lodged, they pre-
pared them suche an enterprise, that the
saide Lord Admirall with a thousande
hoismē and only two thousand barque-
bouziers, droue the said enemies into
sayd village of *Ausance*, bet them from
a brydge which was there, and put all
the armie to flight, who retired into *Poitiers*
in great disoꝝder and confusion with the
losse of many of their men, & of all their
cariage. And although things passed in
this wise, yet are the said enemies so
shamelesse, that they giue out rumours
wholly contrary to the truthe, yea they
sent letters to the Court wherein they
were not ashamed to send worde, y they
withstode the said Princes, where con-
tinually they put thē to flight, & sought
all meanes possible to prouoke them to
fight. Whereto the said Lords Princes
seeing their enemies haue so little lost,
by reson of the ill successe that they had
in the former encounters, to enforce thē
to fight, and (will they nill they) to pre-
uent

A discourse of the

uent such subtilties and disguisings as they cōmonly vsed, this other day in the sight of their enimies, and of all theyr campe, they toke a towne and castle belonging to one of the principall heads of their armie, although the sayd Towne was furnished with men, artillerie, & all other kinde of munition, as he to whom it belongeth, hath had good meane and leisure to do: the taking whereof shalbe so cleare and euident witnesse of it self, of the faint courage that they haue to fight, that they shall neuer be able hereafter to disguise & colour their cowardise as they haue done heretofore. Afterward the said Lord Princes, seeing that neither the taking of the sayde towne & castle, nor anye other occasion that they could giue to the enimies, could prouoke them to fight, and that they kept themselves alwayes on the farther side of the river of *Clain*, whither they fled when they were driuen from *Ausance*, hauing farther a good river before them, & sonke all the boates to hinder any enterprise that

last French warres.

that might be attempted against them: giuing out y they taried for the strength that came with the Seigneur of *Ioyeuse* which they saide was of sixe thousande bargebouziers & fiftene hundzeth horse men: and then they determined to fight with the armie of the said pzinces. This caused the Pzinces (to giue them newe occasion to passe the riuer, & to encrease their will and desire to fight) to force in their sight the towne of *Salmure*, which is a passage of the Riuer of *Loire*, which draue the enemies into suche a ielousie, that they prepared themselves to hinder the said Pzinces from taking of that towne, and for this cause they marched forth their armie, lodging their sotemen in one of the Suburbes, but when the batterie was readie, tidings came y the ennimies had passed ouer the Riuer of *Clain*, making a countenaunce to come to the rescuing of *Salmure*, with the forse of the *Lozde of Ioyeuse*, which was arriued two or thre dayes befoze, which

C.s.

made

last Frenche warres.

made the saide Princes immediately to raise their siege from *Salmure*, causing their armie to marche straight vpon the enimies, which was easie to be done, for that there was no riuer betwene them and the said enimies which they mette befoze the towne of *Londun*, which were appointed to lodge in the Suburbes, wher their lodging was ordained, from whence my Lorde the Admirall raised them, so that they retired and camped in the places & villages about the saide *Londun*. The next day the two armies faced one an other, their scouters being within an hundred paces the one of the other. They shot their Ordnance on bothe partes, and so passed all that day with certain small skirmishes only. And although the enimies had encamped the selues to the vantage, which commonly they do that chose their place first, and might haue approached the sayd Princes armie without any daunger, which the said Princes could not doe to them, yet
when

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When they slept two paces, the Princes
armie slept foure to ioyne with them :
two dayes after the sayde two armies
met againe in the same places, as they
likewise did the day after y. But y^e Prin-
ces could neuer gette them from they^r
bauntage, which is maruellous, conside-
ring the bzuites that they gaue abode,
that they were so strengthened with the
Lord of *Loyenses* power, that they deter-
mined not to depart the places till they
had fought with the said Princes army,
and said also that they had expresse com-
maundement so to doe, or at the least to
raise them from that place, for thereon
depended the hono^r of both the armies.
But how soone this hot corage was coo-
led, is easie to be iudged by their sodain
retiring a league backe from the place
which they had taken, & getting a brooke
betwene them, and the said Princes ar-
mie. Who being not content wth the
bauntage that they wanne of their sayd
enimies, in raising them from the place

C.ij.

that

A discourse of the

that they sayd they chose to fight on, followed them to the second place, and although the sayd enimies had a great vauntage by reason of the brooke which made them hard to be come by, yet what with cannon shot and continual skirmishes that they gaue them, they constrained them againe to leaue that seconde place, & to retire, (yea the kings brother himself) towards *Chinon*, & to passe the river of *Vienna*, leauing all their sicke behinde them, and much of their cariage & munitions. The Princes seeing this, appointed certaine troupes of horsemen and fote men to follow them which set vpon one place of the enimies where there were seven Ensignes, whereof foure were put to flight, and the other three wholly discomfited, and theyr ensignes were burned in a house, where some of the souldiours had withdraue them selues. Afterwarde the said Princes seeing all meanes of fighting to be taken away, by reason of a great and
Strong

last Frenche warres.

strong riuer betwene them, determined to marche with their army towarde *Towars* and *Montrenilbellay*, as well to refreſhe them and for commoditie of vitayles, whereof they had great neede for ſiue or ſixe dayes, as to coaſt the army of the enemies, which being thus retired, diminisheth and breaketh away dayly by litle and litle, ſo that we heare from diuers places, that they talke of paſſing ouer the riuer of *Loyre* agayne: to place part of their Armie in all the towneſ that lye on the ſayd riuer, and to bozder it with warriours at all the bydges, gates, paſſages and villages, and the other part to ſend towardeſ the campe that the King leuyeth againſt the Prince of *Orenge*, and the Duke of *Swebrug*. Which cauſeth the ſayd Princeſ now to determine, that as ſone as they haue receiued thoſe ten thouſand footemen, and twelue hundzeth horſemen that the foure Vlicountes of *Bourniquel*, *Poulin*, *Monclay* and *Calmont*, bring vn-

C.iiij.

to

A discourse of the

to them to strenghten them, and which are almost arriued at their campe, to marche forwarde to the siege of some one of those towne on the sayde river, that they may with all expedition ioyne with the prince of *Orange*, & the duke of *Swebrug*. From whom they haue receiued newes by certayne Gentlemen that they haue sent vnto the, that they are not lesse than five and twentie or thirtie thousande horsemen, and three scoze thousande footemen when they be al mette. In the meane whyle the sayde Lord Princes haue 35. enseignes of footmen and twelue gupdons whiche they haue wonne of the enemies, besides the seven enseignes of companies of footmen that were discomfited, at the departing from before *Loudun*, which wer burnt in the lodgyng to haue the Souldiers that were within. On the other side, the sayde foure Vicountes lost no time where they were, but toke and put to fire and swoorde the towne of *Gaillac*
in

A discourse of the

in whiche diuers cruelties with mar-
vellous stoutnesse had bene committed
against those of the Religion, and also
the lowe towne of *Carcassonne* was ta-
ken by them, with twelue or fiftene o-
ther townes Monsieur of *Grammont* in
the countrey of *Basque* hath also dis-
cōfited the seigneur of *Luye* which had
raised foure thousand mē against those
of the Religion, & won certayne pièces
of artillerie from him. The Cardinal of
Lorayne perceyuyng that al things wēt
not on his side as he hoped and purpo-
sed, caused the Quene to send out M^r.
Portall the generall receiuer, to make
some motion of peace, to the sayd Prin-
ces, to whom the lyke aunswere was
made, that was made to y^e maiſter of re-
questes *Malasise*, that was also sent
by the Quene to the lyke ende, whiche
is this, that as long as the Cardinall of
Lorayne ruled and bled suche tiranny
ouer *Fraunce*, and namely the kinges
counsel, out of whiche they haue driuen

C.iiij.

away

A discourse of the

away my Lorde the Chancelour, and the principall Officers of the crowne, they woulde accept no letters nor messages made vnder the name of his maiestie, but onely as commyng from the forge and inuention of the sayde Cardinall, and that they had vsed so much vnfaithfulnesse in the treaty of peaces heretofore, that those of the Religion are driuen to this extremitie, to belene that there is none other safetie for them, but by the meane of the sword.

Since that tyme the companie of Monsieur Dinoy, tooke the last of Decembre in the suburbs of *Chynon* four score *Swissers* with the Prouost of the Kings Brothers garde, whiche was on the far syde the water, from whence the armie fled in great hast. This is the happy successe that it hath pleased God hitherto to giue to the affaires of the sayd Princes, and the reward and recompence that the enemies haue receyued for their treason and vnfaithfulnesse, which

last Frenche warres.

which is more then sufficiently verifi-
ed by the contentes of the Popes Bull,
whiche they sewed for in the Month of
June & July last, & dispatched at Rome,
the last of August folowing, which sayd
sute shal alwayes evidently convict them,
y^e they neuer intended but to breake the
faith and publique safetie, both promi-
sed and swozne, & further to reuoke the
Edict: whiche came forth anon after,
and in substance hath relation to the
sayd Bull. Wherby they reuoke all the
Edictes whiche haue been heretofore
made in the fauour of those of the Reli-
gion, as being made in the assemblies
of men byred or bybied therto: though
it be well knowen, that it was done in
the solemnest assemblye that euer was
made in this realme, namely the Edict
of Januarie, where all the Princes and
Lords of the Councell of both Religi-
ons, with the greatest and most nota-
ble personages of all the highe Courts
of this Realme were present, and fur-

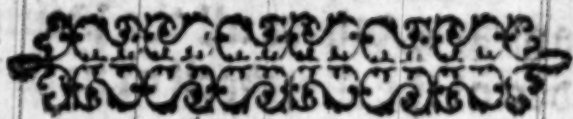
D. j.

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A discourse.

ther beinge made at the Request of the
Estates. And for sufficient pꝛoofe to all
those of the Religion, that they neuer
ment but to abolish & bring to naught
y^e said Religion, they declare in expresse
wordes by the same Edict, that they ne-
uer mynded or inteded any other thing,
notwithstanding any cōmandements,
Lettres patents, and declarations that
haue been given forth or otherwise,
and notwithstanding the great
assurance of wordes, that his
Maiestie hath given, as
wel to his subiects,
as to straunge
Princes.

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